

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Tadahiro IGAWA et al.

Title: AIRBAG APPARATUS

Appl. No.: Unassigned

Filing Date: 10/07/2003

Examiner: Unassigned

Art Unit: Unassigned

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 CFR §1.56**

Mail Stop PATENT APPLICATION
Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Sir:

Submitted herewith on Form PTO/SB/08 is a listing of documents known to Applicants in order to comply with Applicants' duty of disclosure pursuant to 37 CFR §1.56. Except as noted below, a copy of each listed document is being submitted to comply with the provisions of 37 CFR §1.97 and §1.98.

The USPTO has waived the requirement under 37 CFR 1.98(a)(2)(i) to submit copies of U.S. patents and U.S. patent application publications when citing and submitting an Information Disclosure Statement in a patent application filed after June 30, 2003 and in an international application that has entered the national stage under 37 USC §371 after June 30, 2003. Accordingly, copies of these types of documents are not being supplied in connection with this application. Reference is being made to Pre-OG Notice from Office of Patent Legal Administration dated July 25, 2003, *Information Disclosure Statements May Be Filed Without Copies of U.S. Patents and Published Applications in Patent Applications filed after June 30, 2003.*

The submission of any document herewith, which is not a statutory bar, is not intended as an admission that such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application or that such document is considered material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR §1.56(b). Applicants do not waive any rights to take any action which would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove as a competent reference any document which is determined to be a *prima facie* art reference against the claims of the present application.

The listed documents are being submitted in compliance with 37 CFR §1.97(b), within three (3) months of the filing date of the application.

English translations of the foreign-language documents are not readily available. However, the absence of such translations does not relieve the PTO from its duty to consider the submitted foreign language documents (37 CFR §1.98 and MPEP §609). However, where available, English language abstracts are provided for the Examiner's convenience. In addition, Document A30 is a foreign counterpart to Document A5.

Document A28 is a foreign counterpart to Document A10.

Document A3 and Document A31 claim priority based on the same first-filed application.

Document A8 and Document A29 claim priority based on the same first-filed application.

Document A11 and Document A32 claim priority based on the same first-filed application.

Document A12 and Document 33 claim priority based on the same first-filed application.

Applicants respectfully request that any listed document be considered by the Examiner and be made of record in the present application and that an initialed copy of Form PTO/SB/08 be returned in accordance with MPEP §609.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required regarding this application under 37 CFR §§ 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. Should no proper payment be enclosed herewith, as by a check being in the wrong amount, unsigned, post-dated, otherwise improper or informal or even entirely missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit Account No. 19-0741.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: October 6, 2003

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By Md 868 39,370
FOR

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Substitute for form 1449B/PTO				Complete if Known	
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT				Application Number	Unassigned
Date Submitted: October 7, 2003 <i>(use as many sheets as necessary)</i>				Filing Date	October 7, 2003
				First Named Inventor	Tadahiro IGAWA
				Group Art Unit	Unassigned
				Examiner Name	Unassigned
Sheet	1	of	2	Attorney Docket Number	086142-0580

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	U.S. Patent Document		Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number	Kind Code ² (if known)			
A1	5,234,229			GORDON	08-10-1993	
A2	5,257,818			STEFFENS, JR.	11-02-1993	
A3	5,437,473			HENSELER	08-01-1995	
A4	5,669,628			KAUFMANN et al.	09-23-1997	
A5	5,683,102			DAVIS et al.	11-04-1997	
A6	5,743,558			SEYMOUR	04-28-1998	
A7	6,047,986			ISHIKAWA et al.	04-11-2000	
A8	6,131,942			FUJII et al.	10-17-2000	
A9	6,158,770			RYAN et al.	12-12-2000	
A10	5,645,297			ROSE et al.	07-08-1997	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document			Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Documents	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Office ³	Number ⁴	Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
A11	GB	2 348 177		A	TAKATA INC.	09-27-2000		
A12	GB	2 315 467		A	FUJI JUKOGYO KABUSHIKI KAISHA	02-04-1998		
A13	EP	0 638 466		A1	MORTON INTERNATIONAL, INC.	02-15-1995		
A14	JP	2000-255372		A	MITSUBISHI MOTORS	09-19-2000		Abs.
A15	JP	11-334525		A	HONDA MOTOR CO., LTD.	12-07-1999		Abs.
A16	JP	11-334523		A	HONDA MOTOR CO., LTD.	12-07-1999		Abs.
A17	JP	11-334522		A	HONDA MOTOR CO., LTD.	12-07-1999		Abs.
A18	JP	11-334521		A	HONDA MOTOR CO., LTD.	12-07-1999		Abs.
A19	JP	11-334520		A	HONDA MOTOR CO., LTD.	12-07-1999		Abs.
A20	JP	11-334519		A	HONDA MOTOR CO., LTD.	12-07-1999		Abs.
A21	JP	11-268605		A	MAZDA MOTOR CORP.	10-05-1999		Abs.
A22	JP	10-76896		A	ASHIDA MFG. CO., LTD.	03-24-1998		Abs.
A23	JP	9-323604		A	HONDA MOTOR CO., LTD.	12-16-1997		Abs.
A24	JP	7-329697		A	TAKATA	12-19-1995		Abs.
A25	JP	6-305391		A	TAKATA	11-01-1994		Abs.
A26	JP	2-115747		A	NEC CORP.	04-27-1990		Abs.
A27	JP	6-127329		A	TOYOTA MOTOR CORP.	05-10-1994		Abs.

Examiner Signature	Date Considered
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Unique citation designation number. ²See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ³Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document.

⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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Substitute for form 1449B/PTO				Complete if Known	
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT Date Submitted: October 7, 2003 <i>(use as many sheets as necessary)</i>				Application Number Filing Date First Named Inventor Group Art Unit Examiner Name	Unassigned October 7, 2003 Tadahiro IGAWA Unassigned Unassigned
Sheet	2	of	2	Attorney Docket Number	086142-0580

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Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document			Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Documents	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Office ³	Number ⁴	Kind Code ⁵ <i>(if known)</i>				
	A28	JP	3034931	U		12-11-1996		
	A29	JP	11-334524	A	TAKATA CORP.	12-07-1999		Abs.
	A30	JP	10-29487	A	MORTON INT. INC.	02-03-1998		Abs.
	A31	JP	6-171453	A	DAIMLER BENZ AG	06-21-1994		Abs.
	A32	JP	2000-280855	A	SEYMOUR	10-10-2000		Abs.
	A33	JP	10-35405	A	FUJI HEAVY IND. LTD.	02-10-1998		Abs.

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS								
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.) date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.					T ⁶	

Examiner Signature	Date Considered
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